

8534. Frequent in hill forests near ditches.

Sleumer (1969) reported this species from Sri Lanka, India (western peninsula from the Concan southwards; Nilgiris; Madras Presidency, etc. – Assam and Khasia), Burma, Indochina, China and Thailand.

CELASTRACEAE

Salacia verrucosa Wight, Ill. 1: 134. 1840; Laws. in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1: 628. 1875; Ding Hou in Steenis, Fl. Males. 1, 6: 414, fig. 35. 1964. (Fig. 1).

Scandent shrubs. Leaves up to 8.5 x 4.5 cm, elliptic or ovate-elliptic, chartaceous to subcoriaceous, acuminate or rarely cuspidate, cuneate or rounded; petioles up to 1.2 cm long. Flowers c. 0.2 cm long, green, in fascicles.

Specimen examined: North Nicobars, Malacca, Car Nicobar, 11 August 1973, N.P. Balakrishnan 433. Common in coastal forests.

Ding Hou (1964) reported this species from India (Assam and Khasia hills), Thailand, Burma, Indochina and Malesia. Raju (1965) gives the distribution of this species in India as Assam; Andamans – Griffith 888. But Griffith's collection

888 (CAL) is from Mergui (Malay peninsula). However, there is a collection of Helfer 889 (CAL) without exact locality and labelled 'Tenasserim and Andamans' but there is confusion regarding the exact locality. Helfer was murdered by the aborigines on the North Andamans and his collections were unfortunately mixed up with his Tenasserim plants, and hence all have been labelled 'Tenasserim and Andamans'.

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40. NEW PLANT RECORDS FOR ORISSA

Out of 32 vegetational types as mentioned by Champion and Seth (1968), littoral and swamp forests are unique to the state of Orissa. However, these have not been properly botanised by Haines (1921-25) and Mooney (1950). During the recent floristic studies in the mangrove forests of Orissa, three species proved to be new records for the state. Correct nomenclature, short diagnostic characters, locality of collection, field number, notes on ecology and distribution have been provided.

Blumea aurita (Linn.f.) DC. in Wight, contrib. 16: 1834; Grierson in Dassny. et Fosb. Fl. Ceylon 1: 168. 1980. *Conyza aurita* Linn. f. Suppl. 367. 1781. *Laggera aurita* (Linn. f.) Benth. ex C.B. Clarke, Comp. Ind. 92. 1876; Haines, Bot. Bihar and Orissa 2: 490. 1961. (Asteraceae).

Strongly scented glandular herbs. Branching from base. Stem with decurrent leaf bases. Capitula numerous, ovoid, in lax corymbose panicle. Corolla purple.

Flowering and fruiting: December-March.

Specimen examined: Bhitarkanika (Dangmal rest house), *H.N. Subudhi* 6679.

Illustration: Maheswari, *Illus. Fl. Delhi*. f. 107. 1966.

Distribution: India, Burma, Trop. Africa.

Ecology: Growing in saline marshy places not under direct spell of inundation.

Haines (l.c.) reported this species in his treatise without citing precise locality for Orissa.

Ipomoea campanulata Linn. *Sp. Pl.* 160. 1753; Austin in Dassny. *et Fosh. Revs. Handb. Fl. Ceylon*. 1: 327. 1980. *Ipomoea illustris* (Clarke) Prain, *Beng. Pl.* 2: 735. 1903. *Ipomoea campanulata* var. *illustris* Clarke in *Hook.f. Fl. Br. Ind.* 4: 211. 1883. (Convolvulaceae).

Robust twiner. Leaves ovate, cordate, 10-15 nerved, entire; lateral nerves not parallel. Sepals obtuse, unequal, glabrous. Corolla funnel shaped, about 10 cm, reddish purple with darker centre, pale outside. Stamens included. Ovary glabrous.

Flowering and fruiting: November-February.

Specimen examined: Bhitarkanika (Kholra creek), *H.N. Subudhi*, 13630; *B.P. Choudhury*, 16009.

Distribution: INDIA: Sundarban, Andaman, west coast. Elsewhere: Sri Lanka, Malaysia.

Ecology: This robust climber is gregarious among the mangrove shrubs growing in the fringes of creeks where water salinity is low.

Hygrophila erecta (Burm.f.) Hochr. *Candollea* 5: 230. 1934; Manilal *et Sivarajan*, *Fl. Calicut*, 225. 1982. *Ruellia erecta* Burm.f. *Fl. Ind.* 135. 1784. *Hygrophila quadrivalvis* Nees in *Wall. Pl. As. Rar.* 3:80.1832; Haines, *Bot. Bihar and Orissa* 2: 703. 1961. (Acanthaceae).

Erect herbs. Leaves larger (2-4 x 0.6-1 cm). Flowers in axillary whorls; bracteole obtuse, strigose. Calyx with strigose hairs. Corolla purplish blue. Capsule pubescent.

Flowering and fruiting: November-February.

Specimen examined: Bhitarkanika (swampy areas at the end of Suajhor creeks), *H.N. Subudhi* 13612; *B.P. Choudhury* 16021.

Distribution: INDIA: Bengal, Tamil Nadu, west coast. Elsewhere: Sri Lanka, India to Malacca.

Ecology: This taxon mostly colonises the muddy beds of the creeks.

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41. ADDITIONS TO THE BRYOFLORA OF ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

The Andaman and Nicobar islands are experiencing rapid growth of population and human settlements due to rapid all-round development. This has affected both the physical environment and the biotic components. The effect of the intense biotic stress on the quality and quantity of the vegetal cover of Andaman and Nicobar islands needs a thorough survey. During the course of a survey of the endemic flora of these islands, a number of plants which were not previously known to occur here were discovered. This note deals with some mosses collected from south Andaman which are not reported from these islands so far. The bryoflora of these islands remains unexplored. However, some sporadic surveys have been done by Thothathri (1960, 1962), Lal (1980),

Udar and Kumar (1983), Nath (1984) and Joshi *et al.* (1989). 13 endemic species have been reported so far from these islands (Chopra 1975). The bryoflora is very interesting, and requires more attention and a thorough survey.

Octoblepharum albidum Hedw., *Sps. Musc.* 50, 1801.

The plant (class Peristomiopsida, order Dicranales and family Leucobryaceae) is very small, growing in velvety green patches. It is also reported from Kumaon, Sikkim, south India (Kodaikanal), Concan, Nepal, Burma, Ceylon, Indo-Malayan region, Philippines, Australia, Pacific Ocean islands, Sino Japanese region, Africa, Madagascar, North and South America.